

## TEXAS HIGHWAYS--GILLETTE SIDEBAR--MALLORY

### CAMP STREET REPRISE

Lovelady rancher V.H. "Hoyt" Porter bought property near Crockett's depot around 1930 as an investment and built a structure on it along Third Street. Locals called it "Camp Street," because teamsters camped there with their wagons decades ago. The building housed various enterprises simultaneously--including the Starlight Cafe, a barbershop, and pool hall...as well as crap-shooting and bootlegging in the back. Legendary Texas bluesman Sam "Lightnin'" Hopkins and other musicians played there for tips during the Forties.

Vacant at least 20 years, the Porter property got a second lease on life last year when grandsons Guy and Pipp Gillette opened Camp Street Café and Store. With local chef Margaret Broughton in charge of the cafe, diners choose from a wholesome range of home-made daily specials--such as chicken and dumplings, gumbo and etouffé, Tex-Mex, and even Cornish game hen.

For their part, Guy and Pipp reprise the cafe's musical past. Every Saturday evening at 8:30 they host a range of musical styles--from blues to western to bluegrass to Celtic--performed by singer-songwriters from across Texas. Known nationwide as traditional cowboy songsters, the brothers also occasionally perform at Camp Street (next date: Oct. 23). In between operating the cattle ranch once owned by their grandfather and cooking from their chuckwagon at cowboy events, the Gillettes also host a traditional music show at 10 a.m. each Saturday on local radio station KIVY, 1290 AM and 92.7 FM.

The Camp Street Café and Store is located at 215 S. 3rd St., Crockett 75835 (936/544-8656). Hours: Mon-Thu 7:30-2, Fri 7:30-2 and 6-8:30, and Sat

11-2 and 6-8:30. Nov. 20 brings Christmas in Crockett festivities, and the Gillettes will serve chili and cowboy music in and around Camp St. Café.

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